

THE BULLETIN



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REPORT FROM TEL AVIV

By AARON EINFRAK

The unexpected nature of the Yom Kippur war brought an assorted bunch of bedfellows together to cover the conflict which made the Viet Nam war look like a newsman's paradise as far as freedom of information is concerned.

Old Jerusalem hand Alvin Rosenfeld (formerly New York Herald Tribune and NBC) happened to be in Israel on business. He was immediately enlisted by the Washington Post for whom he did yeoman service. I was vacationing in Jerusalem with Soviet Jews, whom I had known during my three year stint in Moscow, when I began receiving wires from Canadian media, and likewise was enlisted. Former Jerusalem hand and veteran OPCer Larry Pett left Israel in April, but he flew back to cover the war for the Kansas City Star.

Most of the odd assortment of stringers and flacks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv had more work than they could handle, making up apparently for some pretty lean years prior to the war.

In some cases news media in North America and West Europe sent whoever was available on the weekend of the outbreak of the war. However, due to El Al's continual operation, news organizations were eventually able to fly in the usual people who cover this type of conflict.

There was a sort of Moscow reunion when Henry Kaam flew in to back up resident NY Times correspondent Terry Smith, and when Gilbert Leuthwaite of the Baltimore Sun and Tanaka Oka of Christian Science Monitor both arrived from Paris. Kaam, Leuthwaite, Oka and myself had worked at the same time in Moscow during the late sixties. For this former Moscow hand it was quite a shock to realize that although the Soviet Union would expel you for unfavorable reporting, the Russians did not tamper with your copy the way Israeli censors do — in war time as well as in peace time.

One resident Jerusalem correspondent summed up the situation when he told me "Any time anything happens around here, they (the Israeli government and its censors) expect us to

(Continued on page 3)

CONFERENCE SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO DROP BARRIERS TO NEWS SOURCES

American and Japanese press executives held a formal conference in Tokyo on October 1-3, the fourth such meeting sponsored by the International Press Institute and the Japan Newspaper Publisher and Editors Association, to make more information available to foreign correspondents.

At every government agency and ministry in Japan, there is a Japanese reporters' club which does not permit anyone who is not a member to attend official briefings or press conferences given by government officials. This set-up, peculiar to Japan, virtually closes important news sources to some 300 foreign correspondents centered in Tokyo.

ANOTHER WHITE HOUSE

BLAST AT NEWSMEN-

A White House spokesman gave a stiff tongue-lashing to members of the "liberal press," during a radio interview from the White House, broadcast in Philadelphia.

The occasion was "Close Up", a regular Sunday feature of WPEN AM-FM, Philadelphia, hosted by OPC Mid Atlantic Co-Chairman Paul Mason.

Mason's guest was Dr. John McLaughlin, Deputy Special Assistant to the President — an ordained priest who was candidate for the Senate in Rhode Island in 1970, and who has worked for the President for over two years. He also produced a series on the Biafra war for ABC-TV, according to The White House.

Dr. McLaughlin took special note of NBC's John Chancellor, for coverage he referred to as "almost paranoid". He also singled out CBS's Dan Rather, Robert Pierpoint, and Washington newsman Martin Agronsky, for offering "slanted" news.

The White House speaker was on the air after a request from Mason for someone who could represent the Administration, to balance a sharp demand for impeachment from the American Civil Liberties Union, on an earlier broadcast.

Network reporting, as Dr. McLaughlin described it, is heavily distorted against the President.

As for reporters, he told Mason, many have what he termed "second rate standards of professionalism."

The interview was broadcast December 2nd.

There are some exceptions. Under an arrangement with the Foreign Ministry and its press club, foreign correspondents are authorized to attend on-the record press conferences there. The Prime Minister's office and its press clubs dropped the barrier in 1972 and admits correspondents to daily press conferences of the Chief Cabinet Secretary and to the periodic conferences by the Prime Minister. But, except for periodic briefings, regular newsbreaking sessions at other government agencies and ministries are closed to correspondents.

According to "No. 1 Shimbun," the publication of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, the club's president Sam Jameson of the Los Angeles Times told the conference that Japan's import quotas are now 97 per cent liberalized to foreign goods, but its news sessions are only 2 per cent liberalized as far as foreign reporters are concerned. Other FCCJ American members participating in the discussions were Ivan Hall, the Philadelphia Bulletin; Roy Essoyan, AP; Arnold Dibble, UPI, and Don Oberdorfer, the Washington Post.

A joint resolution of the conference included the declaration that the delegates will "support the efforts by responsible officials and press organs both in the United States and Japan to eliminate barriers to news coverage by foreign correspondents and contribute to the greater flow of accurate information."

The U.S. editors' delegation was headed by George Chaplin, editor of the Honolulu Advertiser, and William Hosokawa, associate editor of the Denver Post.



Vice president Henry Gellerman presenting Janet Murrow with the OPC honorary membership card.

JANET MURROW HONORED AT OPC RECEPTION

By RUTH BIEMILLER

Murrow friends from the London blitz years and from later decades — when Edward R. Murrow pioneered in proving that television was a powerful medium for investigative reporting and that the USIA could be an effective instrument of U.S. foreign policy — joined OPC members in honoring Janet Murrow, as she was presented with her honorary OPC membership card on November 29.

An overflow audience occupied every inch of standing room and sat at tables brightened by bouquets of red and white carnations, the happy thought — and gift — of Mary Hemingway, chairman for the evening. In the absence of Jack Raymond, OPC president, in Europe on business, first vice president Henry Gellerman presided at the brief ceremony.

Introducing Mrs. Murrow, Gellerman said: "Extending an honorary membership to Janet Murrow is a mere formality. To us, in the OPC, she has been a member for many years, especially during the most trying of our early existence. It is we who are being honored today by formalizing this relationship."

In accepting honorary OPC membership, Janet Murrow spoke of the contrast between two worlds she and Ed had known together.

"When we were married in 1934," she said, "Ed was in education. His work with the Institute for Educational Development meant that we consorted with college presidents, academicians. When he decided to go into communications, it was reporters, technicians and newsmakers from various walks of life."

"He worried over the controversial nature of much of his work," she continued. "He would ask Bill Paley whether he wouldn't like an advance look at some of the specials. Bill Paley always said no, that he trusted Ed, and that he'd rather wait and see the show for the first time when it was broadcast."

She also spoke of Ed's belief in the OPC, his vision of it as a large organization, world-wide in scope, and described the Edward R. Murrow-Clare Boothe Luce money-raising team, tackling VIP's for contributions to the 39th Street Building Fund. "They didn't have a chance," she said. "Clare dazzled them then Ed moved swiftly into the kill, with facts, figures and plans for the future."

Among the Club's special guests for the evening: Mrs. Eleanor Horan, curator of the Murrow Collection of Tuft University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy; Ambassador Barbara M. White of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, was as a career officer with USIA knew Ed when he was chief of that agency; and Richard Seyffert, the painter whose OPC portrait of Murrow was temporarily installed over the fireplace in the Solarium for the occasion.

JAZZING THE HARP

AT TWILIGHT SESSION

Handsome young jazz harpist, 20-year-old Gregory Buchanan of the U.S. Navy Band swung aboard the Overseas Jazz Club's final twilight jazz session this year before an enthusiastic audience of some 150 members and guests on Tuesday, November 27.

The Navy harpist from Claremont, California, now stationed in Washington, D.C., was brilliantly supported by such outstanding jazz greats as Milt Hinton on bass; Dill Jones, piano; Art Miller, clarinet and tenor saxophone; "Pops" Borst on drums. Honorary Jazz Club President Earl "Fatha" Hines hosted with assistance from jazz chairman, Wilma Dobie.

On hand to hear a highlight of the evening, "The St. Louis Blues" which drew a standing ovation, were members of the composer W.C. Handy's family.

During the session's intermission Dill Jones told members and guests he was especially happy to share the jazzbill with a U.S. Navy service-

Jones, a Welshman now a recently naturalized American citizen, recalled serving with the British Royal Navy on anti-sub patrol during World War II when he was stricken

"OLD PRO" PARTY

HONORS BEN GRAUER

By ED CUNNINGHAM

A lot of old pros, like Bob Considine, Jim Kilgallen, Ben Gross, Jim Farley, Conrad Thiebault and Rose Bigman (Walter Winchell's secretary) joined a lot of other long-time friends and admirers of Ben Grauer at the OPC's recent "Old Pro" Night in honor of the man who made Times Square a part of New Year's Eve Americana.

Considine MC'd the show which was high-lighted by a 15-minute NBC-made film, titled "All About Ben," which proved conclusively that Grauer can conduct an interview in French, sing a song ("Now And Forever") in Spanish, and do a running, no-notes commentary on everything from the advent of a New Year to the inauguration of a new President.

Gordon Fraser, another retired NBC commentator, and Joe Dine, of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, joined Bob Considine in a round-table reminiscence of Ben Grauer — from Boy Actor to his present eminence as the Voice of America, where he hosts a weekly series titled, "New York, New York." Ben also does a nightly news analysis on Chanel 10 World Wide News.

Ben had a few memories of his own to add when he finally got a chance to talk.

It was a night for remembering when the world was younger and gayer, and there were guys like Ben Grauer around the networks to tell you about it. If you missed Ben's Night, you shouldn't have. It was fun and memories all the way.

KHMER FOREIGN MINISTER

ADDRESSED OPC LUNCHEON

In his address at the OPC luncheon on November 28, at the Cambodian Foreign Minister Long Boret predicted that Prince Sihanouk will never return to power.

"The Prince's dream, Mr. Boret told OPC members and guests, would never come true because the Cambodians adore this republic they have earned with supreme struggle."

The first deputy chairman of the Cambodian National Assembly, Pan Sothi, also spoke. Among the distinguished guests was the president of the Khmer Press Association Chhang Song. OPC vice president Henry Gellerman presided at the Luncheon.

with acute appendicitis. An American Navy Ship came to his rescue, operated on him, and saved his life.

TEL AVIV (cont'd from page 1)

stand up and salute three times for the UJA."

Correspondents on the Northern and Southern fronts had to be accompanied by army press officers at all times. These press officers were often helpful, and you actually needed them to get through the military check-points. But the final result was almost perfect news management—what the press officers did not prevent you from getting, the censors got.

I will always remember Harry Trimborn of the Los Angeles Times telling a press officer "But you don't seem to understand what my job is."

Trimborn was speaking at the Kibbutz Gvat outside Nazareth which had been heavily damaged by a Syrian "frog" missile. We were allowed to write about the destruction at the kibbutz, but we could not mention that it is less than a mile from an Israeli air base where Phantom and Skyhawk jets were taking off for air strikes against Syria. Trimborn and I could hardly hear ourselves talk because of aircraft noise as we questioned kibbutz members. The censor struck out from my copy quotes from kibbutz members who said that the real target for the missile was the "military installations in the area"—not the kibbutz. Thus under the censor's pencil the bombing of Kibbutz Gvat looked like a Syrian atrocity which could justify Israeli attacks against the center of Damascus in which civilians were killed. (No one was hurt at Kibbutz Gvat because its proximity to the airbase makes living in a deep bomb shelter a must in times of crisis.)

The censors were extremely sensitive about anything concerning Israeli war losses. Most of the reports during the war on Israel's heavy losses came from CIA and Pentagon sources in Washington, thus causing frustration on the part of those of us covering the war from the Israeli side.

The censors allowed me to report Israeli claims about the involvement of Soviet advisers in the Arab war effort. But I could not say a word about the role played by the nearly 90,000 Soviet Jewish immigrants who arrived from the USSR during the last three years. One of my friends, who had attended a Soviet military academy, was actually called up for military duty. Naturally I also could not write anything about American and Canadian citizens serving in the Israeli war effort.

Actually, the Israeli censorship effort backfired as far as the home

front was concerned. A tremendous credibility gap developed, and some of my Israeli friends were turning on Jordanian TV or Cairo radio to get a different version than the unrealistic one dished out by the Israeli government. It was not only the foreign press corps which was victimized but also the Israeli public as a whole, both before and during the war.

Much of the dirty linen suppressed during and before the war by censorship is now being aired publicly in Israel because the war has become a political issue. Whether the foreign press corps in Israel—which is expected to "stand up and salute three times for the UJA"—will impartially report this airing of dirty linen is a question. Another question is the behavior of the Israeli censors. In Israel it is not only "never in war time" but also "never in peace time" as far as the free flow of information is concerned.

OBITUARY

Thomas Drake Durrance, 56, died of leukemia on November 25 in a hospital near Le Fleix, France

After graduating from George Washington University and graduate studies at Harvard and Oxford, Durrance started his newspaper career as a reporter for the Washington Post. In 1944 he became war correspondent for Time in Italy, later Time's bureau chief in Rome, senior editor of Kiplinger Magazine and information specialist for the Marshall Plan in Copenhagen, Paris and Washington. He joined Texaco as PR executive in 1955 and Aramco in 1960, retiring as PR director for Texaco Europe, Ltd. at Brussels in 1971.

He leaves his wife, the former Bonnie Howells, their daughter Deirdre, and three children by his former marriage.

NEW MEMBERS ADMITTED

Active Overseas

James Edmund Boyack, Papeete, Tahiti.

Robin Neesham, Toronto Canada.

Associate Resident

Peter Kempnich, New York, N.Y.

Janki Nath Bhat, New York, N.Y.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

John George Clark Coleman, Australian Information Center, New York, N.Y.

Sponsors: Jim Beizer, Rex Harris.

REINSTATEMENT

Active Overseas

Lynn Thomas, Suva, Fiji Island.

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PLACEMENT

Articles Editor wanted, preferably with experience on national magazine. Some orientation in foreign affairs desirable but basic requirement is editorial strength,—in commissioning, revising, in shirtsleeve editing. Salary is flexible. Location is Washington, D.C. Interviews will be in New York. Resume requested soon as possible. Refer to #368.

Mail resumes to the chairman of the OPC Placement Committee: Mark J. Henahan, Resnick-Henahan Associates, 1775 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019.

The OPC Lounge will be open until 3 P.M. on Christmas and New Year eves, December 24 and 31.



THE BULLETIN

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Joseph C. Peters, Chairman; Helen Alpert, Lillian Genn, Grace Naismith, Harry Rand, David Resnick, J. Wendell Sether, Ansel Talbert.

WhoWhatWhere

By GRACE NAISMITH

HONORS: Stanley M. Swinton, vice-president and assistant general manager of AP, has received word from the University of Michigan Historical Society that it will have a Stanley M. Swinton Collection, made up of his papers. Included are the original notes taken when Mussolini was killed, interviews with Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi in 1946 and letters from newsmakers ranging from King Farouk to Gussie Moran. Swinton has the cover story in the November VFM Magazine telling anecdotes of the Stars and Stripes, of which Stan was combat correspondent in the Mediterranean — Africa, Italy and Southern France — in World War II. The Veterans of Foreign Wars publication now has a circulation of 2,000,000... **Lester R. Bittel** has been honored by The American Society of Mechanical Engineers for "his outstanding efforts relating engineering to economics and management" and has been selected to be Henry Robinson Towne Lecturer at the engineers' winter meeting in Detroit. Named in honor of the founder of Yale & Towne Company, the lecture has honored such notables as Herbert Hoover and Peter Drucker... **Lillian G. Genn** has been invited by the University of Wyoming to give her journals and manuscripts covering her career in international journalism to their Archives of Contemporary History. Lillian was formerly a foreign correspondent for the Ledger Syndicate of Philadelphia, primarily in the Middle East... **Theodore Berland** has received an award from the Vision Conservation Institute for an article on eyeglasses and contact lenses.

PUBLISHING EVENTS: Larry Stessin has a section on Industrial Spies in the newly issued edition of Encyclopedia Britannica... **Herb Kupferberg's** "A Rainbow of Sound: The Instruments of the Orchestra and Their Music," with photos by Morris Warman, just published by Scribner's. Kupferberg's "The Mendelssohns: Three Generations of Genius," recently out in paperback is being published in Germany by Rainer Wunderlich Verlag, Stuttgart... **Mary Tanenbaum**, "one of New York's most knowledgeable people on things Oriental," says Cue, Nov. 26-Dec. 2, and features her article, "A Chinese Style Celebration," selected to holiday feasting... **Richard Cohen** is author of "Middle East Memo," an analysis and interpretation of the Middle East scene since the Yom Kippur War for the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations... **Ray Shaw's** new book,

"Candle Art", published by William Morrow, is appearing on radio and TV programs.

NEW LOOK: Nathan W. Goldstein and Irvin S. Taubkin have formed a partnership as consultants in public relations and communications. Goldstein, recently retired as special assistant to the publisher of the New York Times where he worked for nearly 50 years, will operate from 162 Lynam Road, Stamford, Conn. Taubkin, who had been at The Times for 35 years as promotion and public relations director, will have headquarters at 4440 Exeter Drive, Sarasota, Fla. Name of firm: Goldstein & Taubkin. It will be affiliated with Weintraub & Fitzsimons, Inc. in New York City... **Therese Bonney**, octogenarian, is studying for a Doctor's degree in Gerontology at the Sorbonne and writing on the subject. According to **Mark Henehan**, she was Dean (Deaness?) of the American Press in Paris. Her records include everything from war correspondent and photographer in WWII to a guide book to Paris — WHERE, WHAT, WHEN and HOW... **Jim Catalano**, president of Lawler & Catalano, Inc., Public Relations, has compiled a new Directory of Analyst Society meetings, officers, addresses, etc. for U.S. and Canadian financial analyst society. May be helpful to OPCers. (Copy in Jimmy Menditto's office.)

HITHER AND THITHER: James Whitford back from Athens where he was during the first week of the new military regime that ousted President Papadopoulos... Past OPC VP and board member **Ansel E. ("Ed") Talbert** was master of ceremonies at the Adventurers Club on December 12 at the Hotel Delmonico honoring **Lou Cotlow**, the author/explorer. Ed also MC'd an earlier lunch in Washington at which Sir George Edwards, England's number one aircraft designer, was the principal

speaker. These and other appointments have made Ed a Travelin' man of late.

GOOD NEWS: Victor Riesel has returned to his desk as syndicated labor columnist after the second of the eye operations which may restore his sight. He says "it looks like there will be some recovery of sight in the left eye." One more operation coming up which involves piercing the eye and letting light into the lens. Riesel, former OPC president, was blinded 17 years ago when reputed labor racketeers threw sulphuric acid in his face.

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